

Guitar Hero tournament close to setting fall atrium gig

Come back here in the fall, if you're good enough. Plans continue apace for the first Guitar Hero tournament, sponsored by the *Shelton State Courier*. Sponsors and workers are being lined up to make this a special event open to everyone.

The tentative plan calls for a roped-off stage to be set up in the atrium where anyone wishing to take a shot at the Hero crown will get his or her chance between classes. The player's score will be recorded and after the first round half will be eliminated. Rounds will be completed until the "Buccaneer Guitar Hero" is crowned.

One of the sponsors to step forward has been the Baptist Student Union of the University of Alabama and Shelton State. The BSU's Kim Andrews made inquiries as soon as she read about the idea in last issue's *Courier*. "We would love to get involved," she said. "We'll figure out if it's providing drinks or student

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Everybody into the pool



On a blustery afternoon after 5 p.m. the Pickens carpoolers (L-R) Loretta Jones, Omar Beauchamp and Keith Crowley head for home.

Consultant working on college technology plan



Consultant Dr. John O'Brien wants to enthuse Shelton about the latest technology.

Dr. John O'Brien says he was very impressed with Shelton State. "The people seemed enthusiastic and very cooperative, willing to

work together. But when it came to the technological side of things, it seemed different, more subdued."

Besides being on call to help colleges with identifying their technological needs, O'Brien seemed particularly able, in his meeting with Shelton on July 8 in the Alabama Power Recital Hall, to transfer his passion

for the appropriate use of the latest technology for students and college campuses as a whole.

O'Brien consults through the League for Innovation in the Community Colleges, a consortium of some 900 college sfrom throughout the world.

O'Brien was recently named the chief academic officer at Century College in Minnesota, and though his Ph.D. is in English, he has been highly visible and effective at integrating the latest gizmos with tradition-

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Carpool from Pickens County

"When you ride ALONE, you ride with Hitler," asserted a World War II poster, promoting the idea that saving oil for the war effort was the patriotic thing to do..

Perhaps an updated version might feature Osama bin Laden. The idea is: saving gas keeps money from flowing to the Middle East and to the dictators and

their enablers who take Western money in one hand and, reported-ly, fund terrorism with the other.

But it was n't patriotism or international politics that got Admission's Loretta Jones thinking a couple of months ago; it was simply the price of gas.

"I just couldn't keep doing this," she said. "The cost of gas was just killing me. I knew Omar and Keith were driving in every day from Pickens County,



It was the idea of Loretta Jones, of Admissions and Records, to form the carpool.

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Inside

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too. So I called them and they jumped all over the idea."

The logistics of the Pickens County Carpool are, perhaps, typical. Jones and Keith Crowley are both from Carrollton. They meet in the morning about 7 a.m. at the church Crowley pastors in town: the Carrollton Church of God. "I feel pretty safe leaving my car in the church parking lot," says Jones.

Each of the three take a week of driving. Crowley and Jones meet up with Omar Beauchamp at a service station near the intersection of Ala. Hwys. 86 and 82. The one who is not driving that week leaves his or her car there.

"You should see the cars that are starting to pile up at that service station," Jones said.

Might they start charging a parking fee, did she think. "You know, they might, but it wouldn't matter because I think this is a whole new way of life. People are waking up to the reality that gas is just not going to be cheap anymore," Jones said.

Beauchamp said the reality of carpooling "is going to get to the point where folks got to. I use to drive 48 miles to work. I would love it if West Alabama developed mass transit, but this is the next best thing."

Crowley put his finger on the crux when of the matter he said, "I save \$160 per month carpooling."

9 Tips for Successful Carpooling from CommuterPage.com

1. Determine your route and schedule. Establish the morning pickup point(s) and designate a place(s) to meet for the trip home.
2. Draw up a schedule for driving responsibilities. If all members of your carpool alternate driving, decide among yourselves if you want to alternate on a daily, weekly, or monthly basis.
3. Establish a method for reimbursing driving expenses. Is all members of your carpool do not share the driving equally, come to an understanding of how the costs will be shared and agree on payment dates.
4. Be punctual. Decide how long the driver is expected to wait. When home pickups are utilized, do not disturb everyone in the neighborhood by honking if a rider is running a few minutes late.
5. Establish policies. Smoking or nonsmoking; music and volume; food and drinks. Your carpool will have a better chance of success if possible irritants are discussed initially.
6. Make carpooling service on purpose. If it is for commuting to and from work, do not let it become a shopping or errand service.
7. Establish a chain of communication. If a driver is ill, or will not be going to work one day, an alternate driver should be notified to ensure that other members of the carpool will have a ride. If a member is ill or will not be working, the driver must be contacted as soon as possible.
8. Drive carefully and keep the vehicle in good repair. This includes keeping the vehicle clean and safe. There are others involved. There should be no excuse for excessive speed, use of alcohol, or reckless maneuvers.
9. Respect your fellow carpooler's wishes. Especially in the morning when some people like a time of quiet.
(And one from us...)
10. If you're looking to start a carpool, check out the notice on the right...

Interested in forming carpools?

Some SSCC students, faculty and staff have begun talking about sharing the burden of \$4-per gallon gasoline among their fellow commuters. As a public service to the college family, the *Shelton State Courier* will be happy to serve as the first line of coordination. If you would like to carpool into Shelton, e-mail the *Courier's* publisher, Dr. Jim Kenny, at jkenny@sheltonstate.edu.

The *Shelton State Courier* is brought to its readers by the academic and extracurricular programs of Shelton State Community College.

Shelton State Courier

Publisher

Dr. Jim Kenny

The *Shelton State Courier* is a campus newspaper, written and produced with the help of students.

Among its functions, it is intended as a vehicle for student expression, and all students are urged to participate with submissions of written and artistic material.

The college seeks to fulfill the statement for academic freedom in working with the students in the pro-

duction of this paper.

All publications are subject to review by the Publications Action Group, which has been delegated the responsibility to review all college publications for content and accuracy.

The *Courier* is an equal opportunity employer and student organization. All students are encouraged to participate.

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-al learning.

The League's website explained O'Brien's approach this way: "His leadership is founded on the conviction that the new interactive technologies have enriched the lives of students, and reaching these students will increasingly require integrating, if not embracing, these new approaches."

O'Brien has submitted his written report to the college administration, which is studying it now and will release it to the college community soon.

In his presentation to the whole Shelton State commu-

nity on July 8—in shifts throughout the day—

O'Brien spoke about the need to

attain "state of the art"

equipment," the necessity to have

"a vision" for technology,

to demand "clear quantifiable

outcomes," and having the

will to "invest in

infrastructure."

Among a wide range of

specific suggestions, the consultant urged five approaches for integrating information technology throughout the college: 1) the formation of new committees to study the technology needs of Shelton State 2) the information technology people must work with the academics to ensure the best and most appropriate hardware and software is obtained 3) complete an IT survey every two years to stay on top of the needs 4) be able to answer the question of who's in charge of things, particularly the website and 5) the IT people must go to meetings and interact with their constituents to know what's going on, what's needed and how their technological needs can be met.



President Mark Heinrich introduces consultant Dr. John O'Brien (L) by talking about the vital importance of technology.

AUDITIONS

A Little Night Music

Music & Lyrics: Stephen Sondheim

Paul K. Looney, Director

Leslie Poss, Musical Director

Audition Dates/Information:

August 13 and 14 at 7 p.m.

IN THE ALABAMA POWER RECITAL HALL

Specifically needed

A role for one teenage female- singing/acting

Roles for 2 adult female chorus singers: first sopranos

Roles for 2 adult male chorus singers: 1 first tenor; 1 baritone

Roles also available for Men & Women, singing and non-singing

16 BARS OF MUSIC

READINGS FROM THE SCRIPT

Scripts available at Theatre Tuscaloosa

For more info call 391-2277

Performance Dates: Oct. 3-12, 2008

Pay What you can performance Oct.2

Guitar cont'd from Page 3

workers or what. But we want to be involved, for sure."

As a matter of fact, it was Andrews's experience setting up an impromptu game in the Student Activity Center that was one of the catalysts for the idea of a tournament.

Assistant Dean of Student Services Susan Mohun has talked about the experience several times. "She set it up with one of our TVs here and it was something the way the students came in and played on it. With just word of mouth we had good participation," Mohun said.

The exact format for the

tournament, whether Guitar Hero I, II or III, for instance—and which platform, has yet to be determined. Much will be determined by what equipment is available—and for how long.

More than likely, one contestant will perform between classes on M-W-F and two for T-Th classes.

The prize list will be determined at the beginning of the fall term, but certainly a trophy will be awarded to the overall winner.

According to Wikipedia, the Guitar Hero series "was developed by Harmonix Music Systems from 2005 to 2007 before development duties of the series were transferred to Neversoft, whose first effort, *Guitar Hero III: Legends of Rock* was released on October 28, 2007 in North America."

If you would like to help organize and/or run the Guitar Hero

Tournament, please call the publisher of the Courier, Dr. Jim

Kenny, at 391-2406 or e-mail jkenny@shelton-state.edu.

Buccaneer

GUITAR HERO

The 'Old Man' says farewell

By Tom McFall



I've been referred to as the "Old Man" and the "Old Guy" since first coming to Shelton State community college in September, 2006. It was never spoken in meanness or otherwise, and I took it to heart as an honor.

I've learned a lot since day-one. This school has a multi-million dollar theater with dedicated people responsible for first-class productions. The athletic fields are pristinely groomed and active with baseball, softball, and soccer programs. Men and women's basketball produces players which bring interest from scouts representing four-year institutions.

My favorite activity has been working for Dr. Jim Kenny, publisher of the school paper, *The Shelton State Courier*. I have always loved writing and have been doing so since a very early age. At the age of 44, my dream of being published was changed to reality and for that I'm grateful. Dr. Kenny has mentored me by improving my skills and bettering my understanding of proper "press-style" writing.

There are many things I have been able to discover about not only Shelton State, but myself. With the many programs, scholarships, grants, and people dedicated to a student's success, there is no excuse for failure. There are endless resources available just waiting for the asking.

School is not just about grades, so it's important to know that a student needs to get involved in as many things as possible. When transferring to a four-year school, they will ask for a list of extra-curricular activities in which participation occurred.

My acceptance to Athens State University was made easier by disclosing my involvement with the theater, school paper, and being accepted into the Phi Theta Kappa Honors society. If going into the workforce is the goal, they too will appreciate these same activities. The school website lists a variety of clubs and organizations that offer great rewards.

It has been an honor to mentor many younger students. I can see the determination and dreams of so many. I am indebted to all of my many superb instructors including Lee Tucker,

William Quimby, Brett Butler, Wynora Freeman, and my student advisor Ryan Sabbagh. Debbie Reynolds of Workforce Development is responsible for my start towards my two Associate degrees I'll receive in August.

Shelton State Community College gave me the lessons I needed to graduate. The staff here showed me that being a student/alumni member is closer to being part of a family more than anything else. And for anyone that has the desire to succeed, take it from this "old man," you will.

Start working now on your poems, artwork, photography and prose to submit to *Maxwell's Crossing*, the college's fine arts publication published each December.



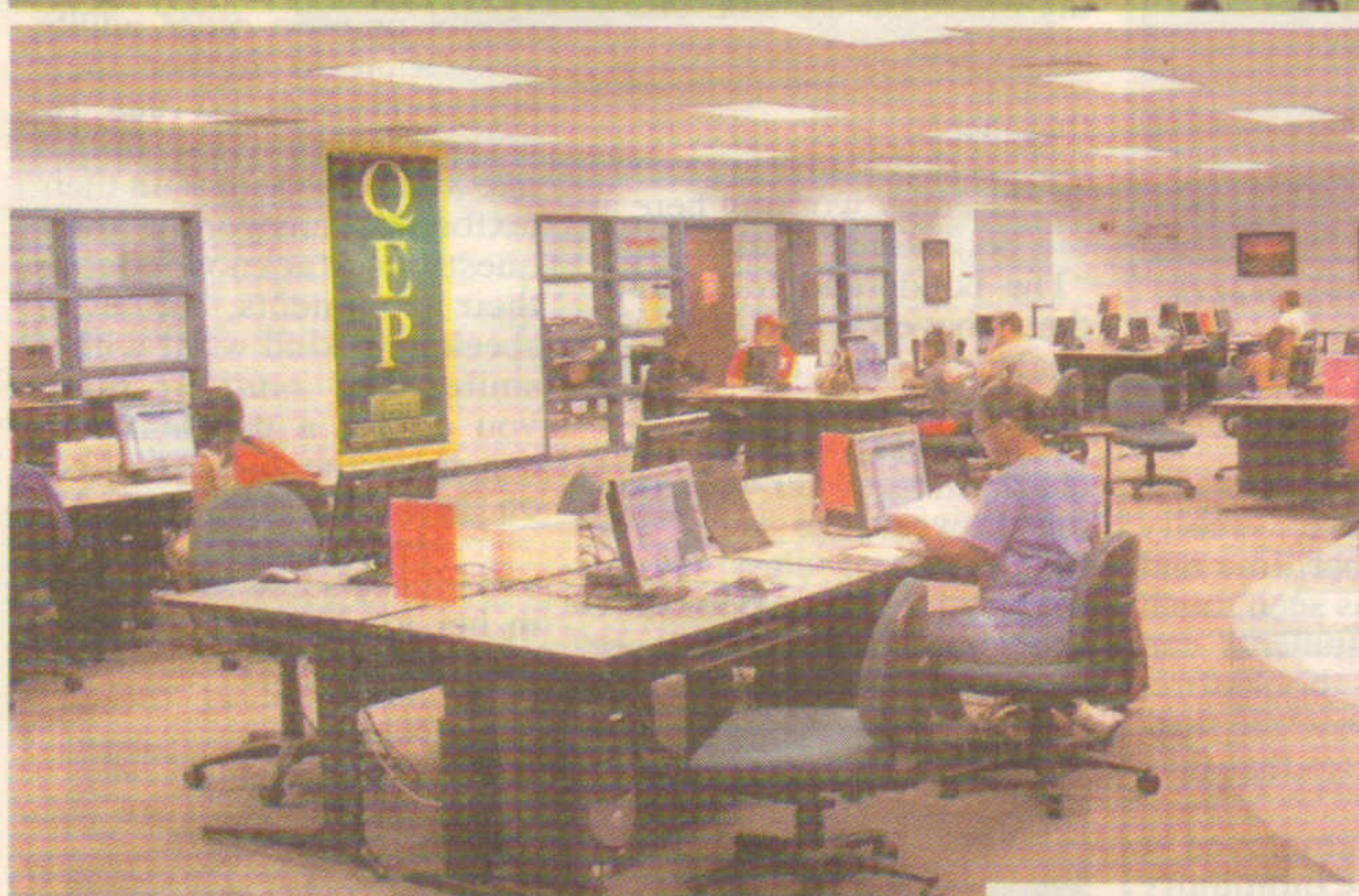
**are you on it?
learn how.**



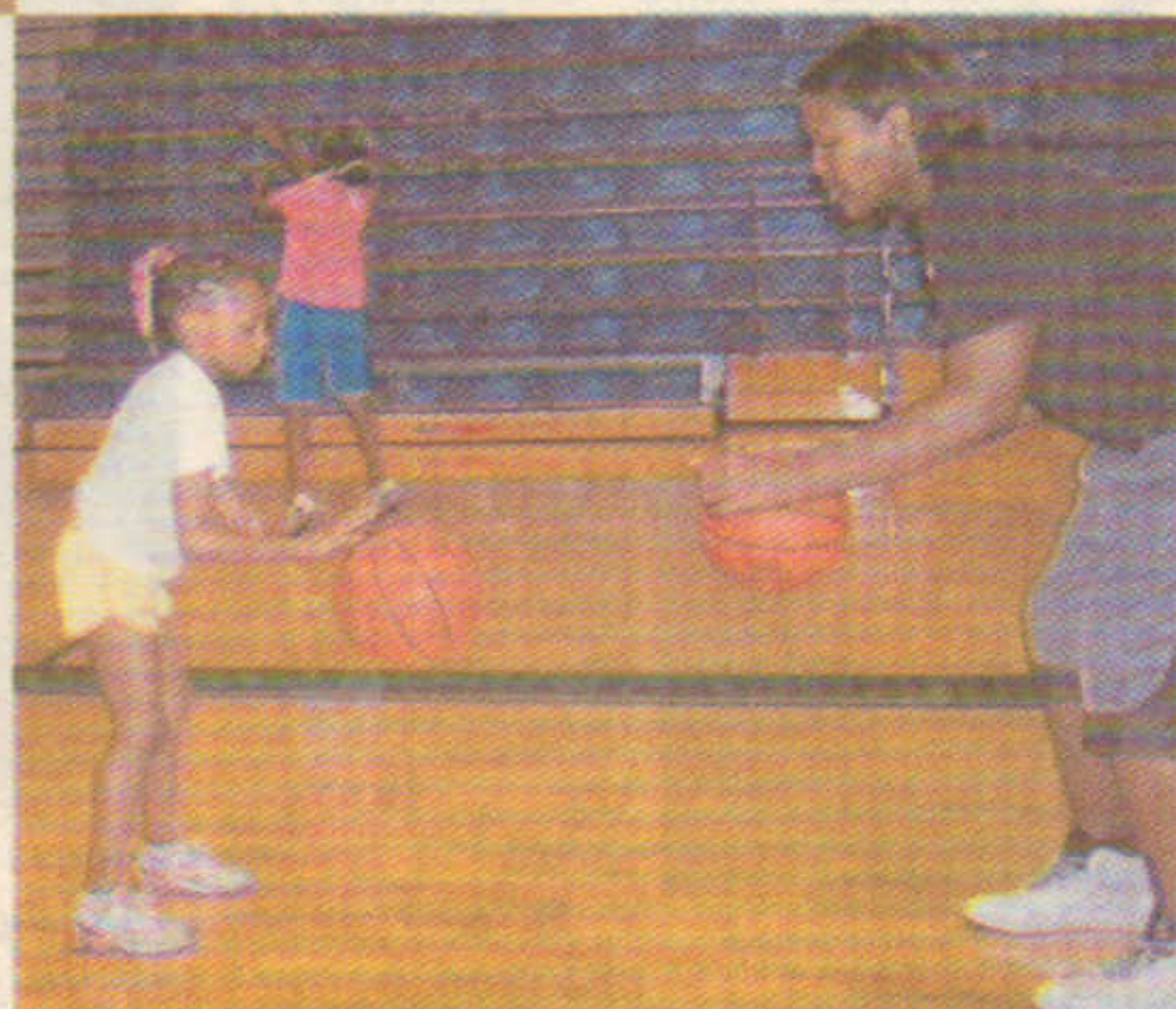
Shel-Shots



Shelton State Baseball Coach Bobby Sprowl, a former Major League pitcher, works with baseball campers on their throwing motion as part of the Bobby Sprowl Baseball Camp at Shelton State.



The Learning Center (L) remains a busy and a popular place, even during the summer. Business was good for early registration (Above) as people linen up in the atrium. It doesn't take long, though, to process their paperwork and get them through...



Ashley Young (L) of the Lady Bucs works with Ky'lela Walker and Larrenda Rockwell works with Kymaya Walker during the Madonna Thompson Basketball Camp at the college.



There's a storm abrewing...

Infrastructure

(A series about how the college is put together)

By Judy Johnson
Bookstore Manager

The Shelton State Community College Bookstore was a small store at the old Skyland Blvd. location. When students needed to purchase textbooks and supplies, they would have to come to the counter, present their schedule and a bookstore employ-

Sherri McGuffries, Josh Junkin, Eric Prewitt and me, Judy Johnson.

In August 2007 we opened another location at the Fredd campus. The hours for that campus are 7:30 a.m. until 12 noon, Monday-Friday.

We are continuously attempting to fulfill the needs of the students, faculty and staff. For instance, we now sell gift cards.

But, of course, our main

Sometimes it's hard for me to believe the time that has passed in my relationship with Shelton State and, in particular, the bookstore. I didn't have any idea what lay ahead.

When I was a student at Shelton I can remember the first time I walked into the Bookstore at the Skyland Blvd location. I gave the clerk my schedule and the textbooks and supplies I needed were pulled and

growth at Shelton State Community College and the bookstore. I especially tend to be particular about the job I do here at Shelton, and can't imagine working any place else.

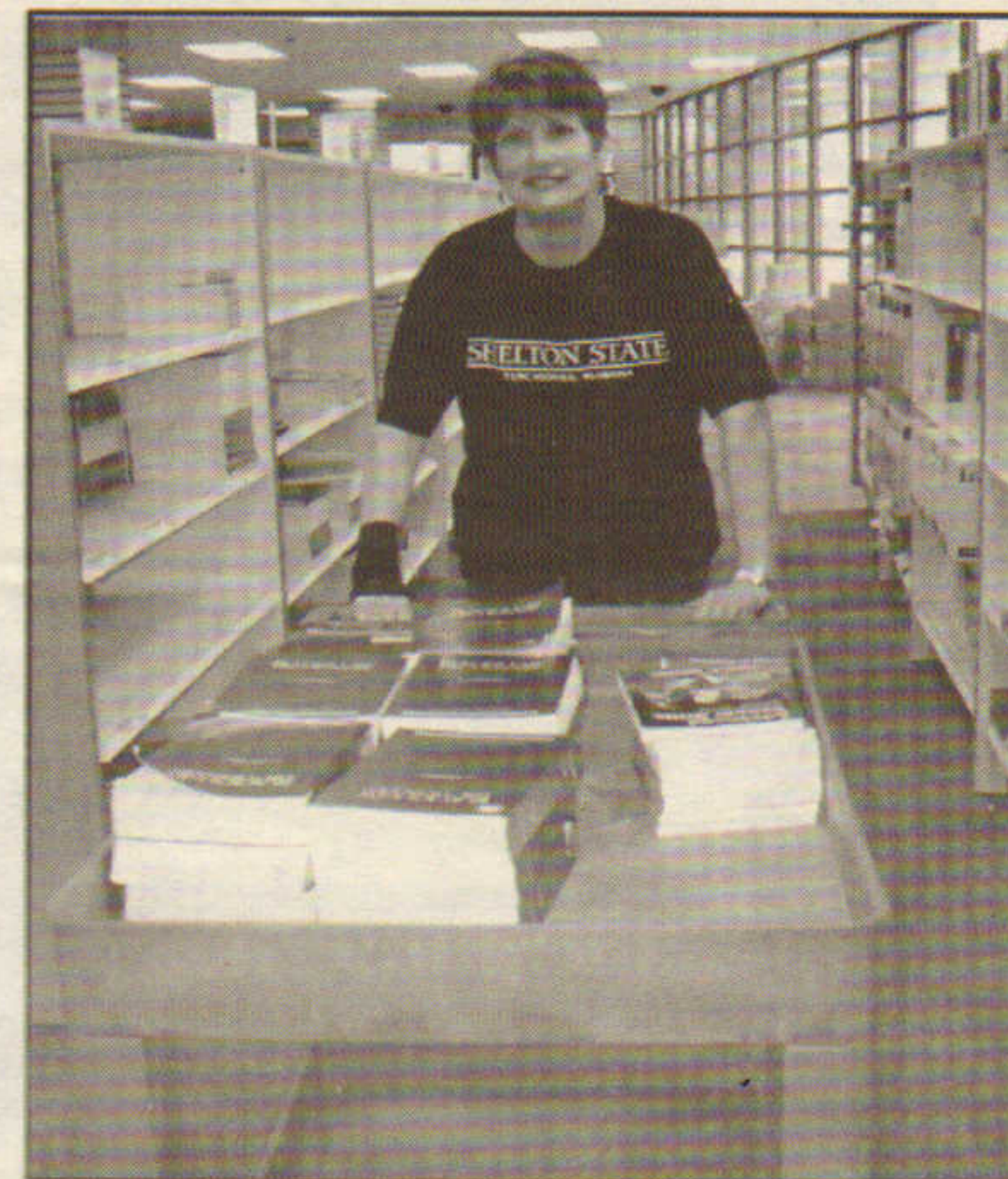
I t seems that most of the present employees feel very similar to the way I do. For

some reason, helping students and interacting with the whole Shelton family seems to be a fun thing to do!

Kenya Parker works in the office on the side of the store, and she is often the one who fills the orders for the faculty and staff members as they come in.

"I enjoy working here at the bookstore," Parker says, "The bonds and friendships that I have created with the students, staff and faculty here are lasting ones."

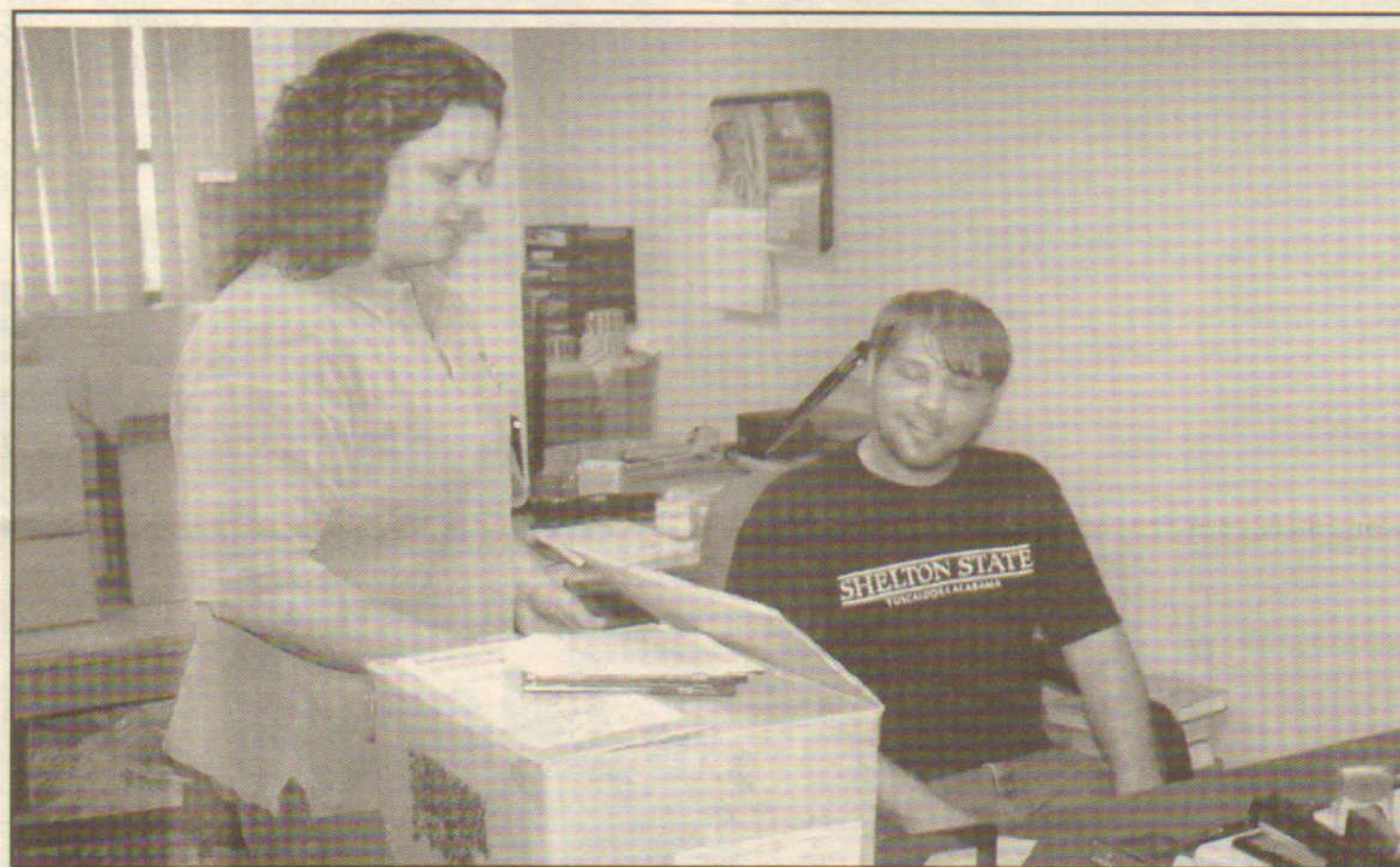
When she is asked about the rhythms of her work during the year, she says, "The first week of class is our busiest time in the bookstore and sometimes you can't see the top of our heads for the



Susan Grosse bustles about stacking the bookstore shelves, usually with this smile on her face.

long lines and crowds. but you get a real sense of satisfaction and appreciation knowing you have helped someone like an eager and excited incoming freshman just starting out from high school or even older adults who want to further their education. You do this by doing the simplest things like assisting them with their textbooks, answering their questions, acknowledging their comments, or even speaking a kind word with a smile. The *smallest* thing you do for a person really can have the *biggest* effect on their lives."

Beth Murphy gets to experience some real variety in her job at the bookstore. She has as one of her main



Bookstore Manager Judy Johnson checks on an order with Josh Junkin in the storeroom at the back of the Shelton State bookstore.

ee would gather the textbooks and/or supplies that they needed.

The bookstore has a much larger location now at the Martin Campus located to the right side of the atrium as you come in the front doors of the college.

The Martin location opened July 1997; the hours of operation are Monday-Thursday 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and on Friday we close at 5 p.m.

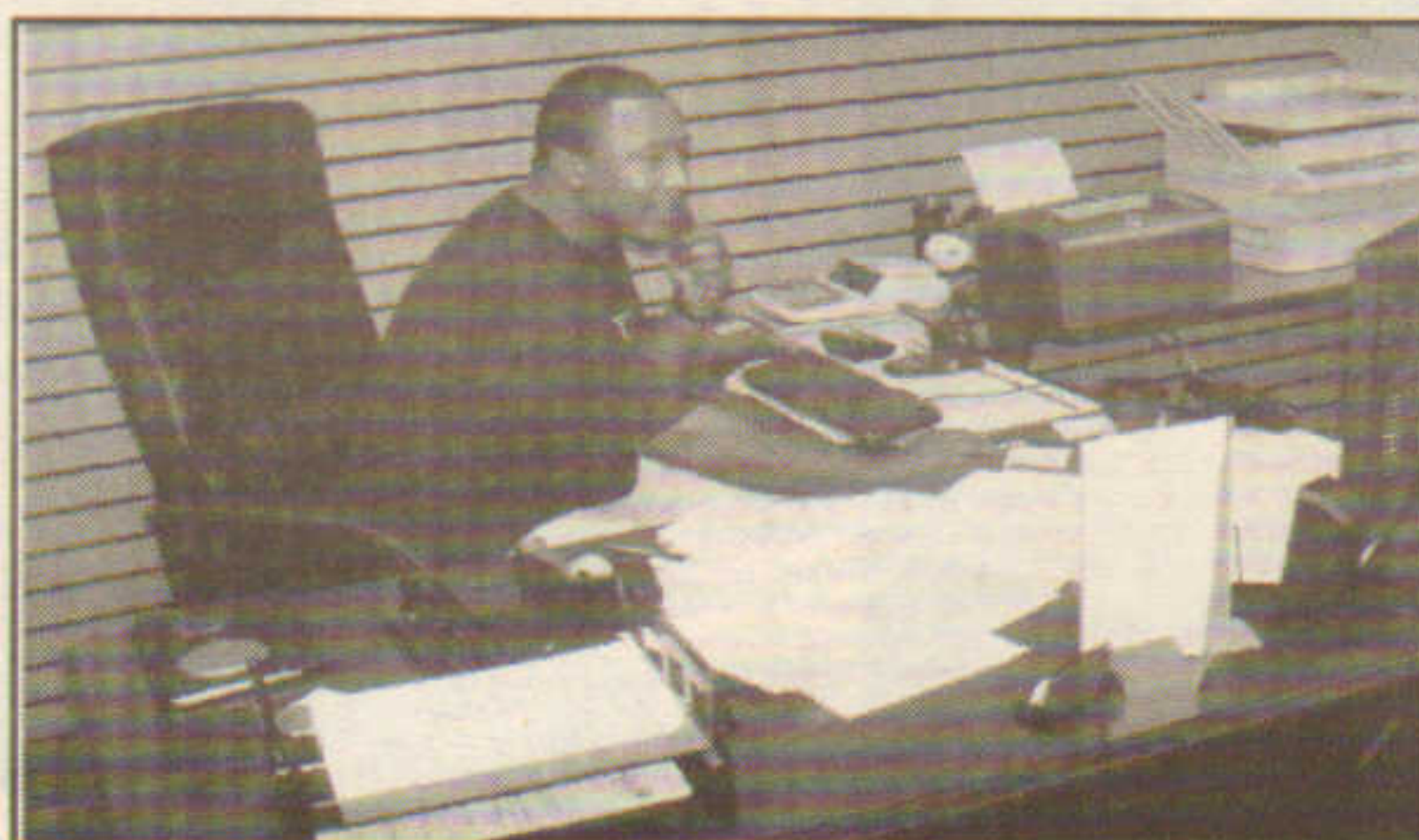
The Shelton State website enables students to order books online and have them shipped to them.

The store now features a year-round wholesale textbook buyback as well as our usual buyback during the week of finals.

We are staffed with eight employees: Kenya Parker, Susan Grosse, Beth Murphy, Brandi Acker,

job is to take care of the academic needs of the college. The bookstore stocks all textbooks needed for classes at Shelton State.

Financial Aid students can show their Shelton State ID and are then able to charge their textbooks and supplies to the Financial Aid program in which they are approved.

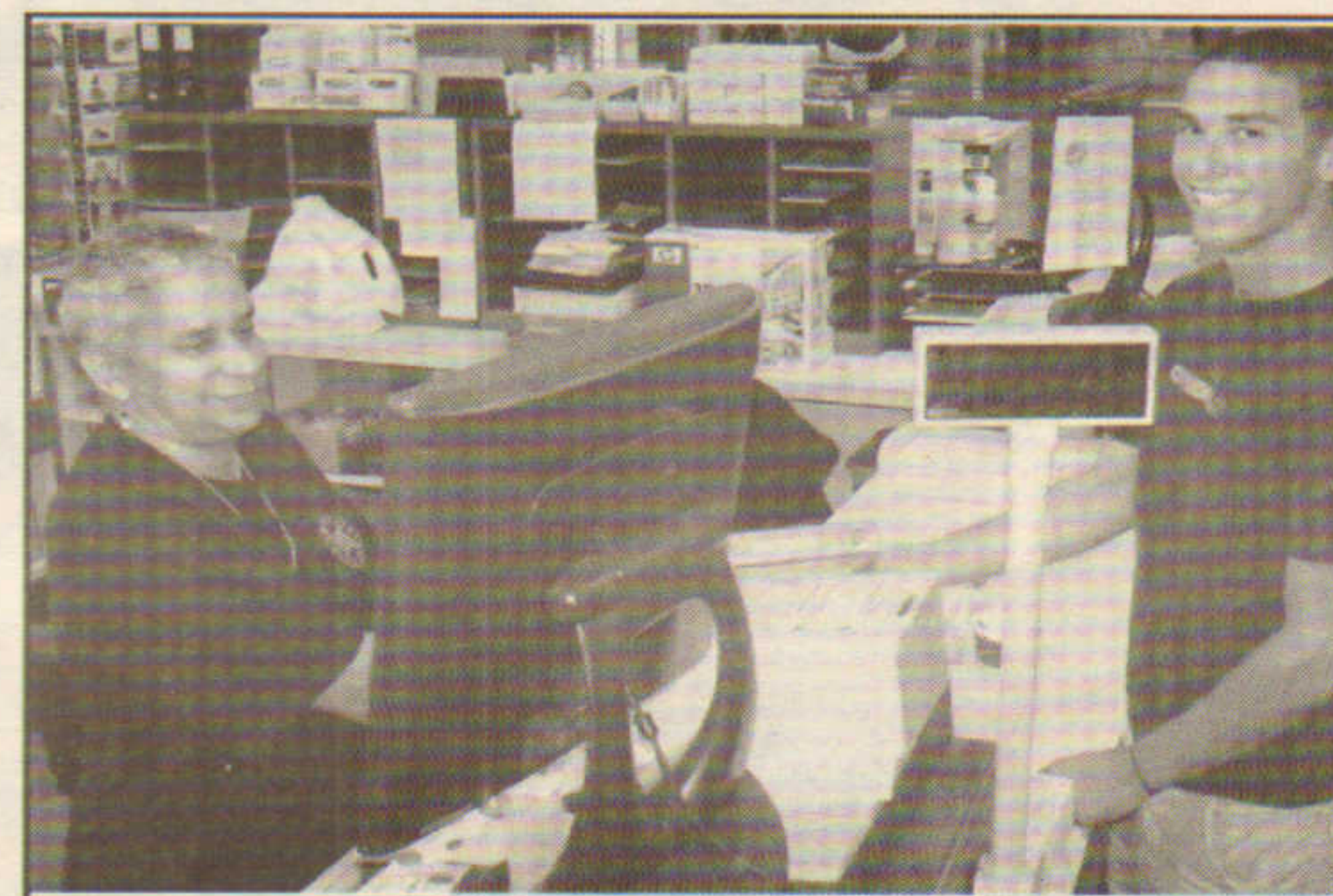


Eric Prewitt is the bookstore newest employee. Here he checks on an order.

brought to me.

Things have really changed since that time and the bookstore has seen much growth. Now students can come into the bookstore, browse, and choose the textbooks and supplies that they need for class.

I have been employed at Shelton State Community College for more than 20 years. When I started here I worked as a cashier in the Business Office. Five years later I was given the opportunity to be the manager of the bookstore. I have really enjoyed being a part of the



Sherri McGuffries normally staffs the checkout counter and is happy to help students like Blake Anthony "I enjoy working in the bookstore because you get to see and meet a lot of people who work here and who go to school here," she said.

The Bookstore



responsibilities the maintenance of the Fredd Campus location.

"One of the best things about working in the bookstore is to see someone come

favorite part about working in the SSCC Bookstore is working with the students. I especially enjoy working with the incoming freshmen. It's rewarding to reassure the

times our students do not understand that they are why the faculty and staff show up to work every day.

"I also enjoy working with our more 'mature' students who are sometimes apprehensive about coming 'back' to school after many years away from campus. It is great to know that you are never too old to learn."

Josh Junkin is the person assigned to most of the heavy lifting in the bookstore. It's a busy job, but it entails getting an actual workout. "The two weeks before classes start mark the most work of the semester," Junkin said.

"As the person who handles shipping and receiving, I have a big to-do list about this time of the semester. When new editions come out, I have to remove the old editions, call the publishers

to see if they are returnable, and if they are, box the books up and send them back. Then, we order the new editions. When they come in, my job is to put these books out and renew the price stickers.

"This is the reason for my enjoyment of the job. By doing this, I know every student has the most up-to-date textbooks so they can learn as much as they can. It's a

really good feeling to know you have helped the future

when I had my own Abbot & Costello "Who's on First?" experience.

At the location on Skyland Blvd a student came into the bookstore and asked what the name of the textbook for Music Appreciation, MUS 101, was because she needed to purchase one. I told her the name of the textbook was *Listen*. She didn't comment; she just leaned closer to the counter as if to hear me better. She said, "Maybe you didn't understand me, what is the name of the textbook for Music Appreciation; you know MUS 101?"

I again told her the name of the textbook was *Listen*.

She giggled a little and



Kenya Parker often gets the task of filling the orders of the faculty and staff of Shelton State, a job which requires a basketful of work.

in with a concern and to see that their concern is given immediate attention and they leave with their problem solved," Murphy said. "The first day of class there is always a mad rush. It is better to come in a week or two before class starts. Lines tend to slack off towards the end of the day on the first day of classes. There is also a bookstore on the Fredd Campus now for your convenience."

Susan Grosse also treasures her interaction with the students in her job. "My

nervous students who come into the bookstore, thinking they are the ONLY ones who aren't sure what they are doing.

"Sometimes you can help them to understand that every college student had a 'first day' of college and they are no different from anybody else in that respect. It is always great to let the students know that there are 'no dumb questions' and that THEY are the most important person at Shelton State Community College! I am always amazed that some-



Beth Murphy spends about half of her work-time on the Fredd campus taking care of the bookstore outlet there. She deals with both the textbooks and whatever supplies are requested.

minds of today's young adults. I can't think of anything else better I could be doing."

A s busy as the eight staff members of the bookstore are, we try to have fun and even laugh when we get a chance.

I'm reminded of just that kind of moment that happened years ago

then said, "I am going to be late, could you please tell me the name of the textbook for my class?"

I finally caught on to the problem; the student was thinking I was telling her to "listen" to what I was telling her. I explained to her that the name of the textbook for her class was *Listen* and I spelled out the word. We laughed together for a minute and she said, "Thank you! Could I please purchase the textbook and I am sorry I wasn't listening."

Whether it comes to listening or doing, we the staff of the SSCC Bookstore try to be responsive to all the needs of the Shelton family. Of course, you don't have to take my word for it. Come on in!



Brandi Acker is often the Bookstore staff member dealing with faculty and their textbook orders—a sometimes difficult and confusing task.

AUDITION REMINDER *MISCAST: A MISHAP MUSICAL CABARET*

August 4, 7 p.m.

Wilson-Carr Rehearsal Hall

This is meant to be a fun entertaining cabaret evening a different way to kick off our 10th year anniversary in the Bean-Brown Theatre. Not a lot of scenery, props or costumes. Just actor(s) in the spotlight. What we want is for you to submit a musical number, or perchance a scene that you would love to do but would never be cast in the role. It can be funny. It can be serious. It can be a solo, duet, big musical number. If your number is selected for the program, YOU are responsible for providing piano/vocal score in the key you are going to sing. We will do NO transposing for you.

Leslie Poss and Tina Fitch will want to hear it sung or roughly done in an "audition" type setting on Monday night Aug. 4 at 7 p.m. in the Wilson-Carr Rehearsal Hall. Leslie and Tina will then pick the best choices for a full-evening's entertainment. We will have an "MC(s)" that will entertain during transitions. This is not amateur night in Dixie. We want this slick and highly realized.

We will rehearse individuals and then put it all together about 10 days before the show opens on September 5th. It is a limited run, Sept. 5 & 6 at 7:30 and Sunday Sept. 7 at 2 p.m.

Who says college kids don't like the outdoors?

At the end of every spring semester, Dr. Lee Albritton takes his chemistry classes on a canoe trip down Hurricane Creek.

They do some ecological clean-up work along the way, but mostly it is a chance to do a little more chemical bonding among the myriad of lab partners.

One of the favorite features of the excursion is the selection of the luncheon cuisine by the lab team that has performed the best on the in-class lab quizzes.

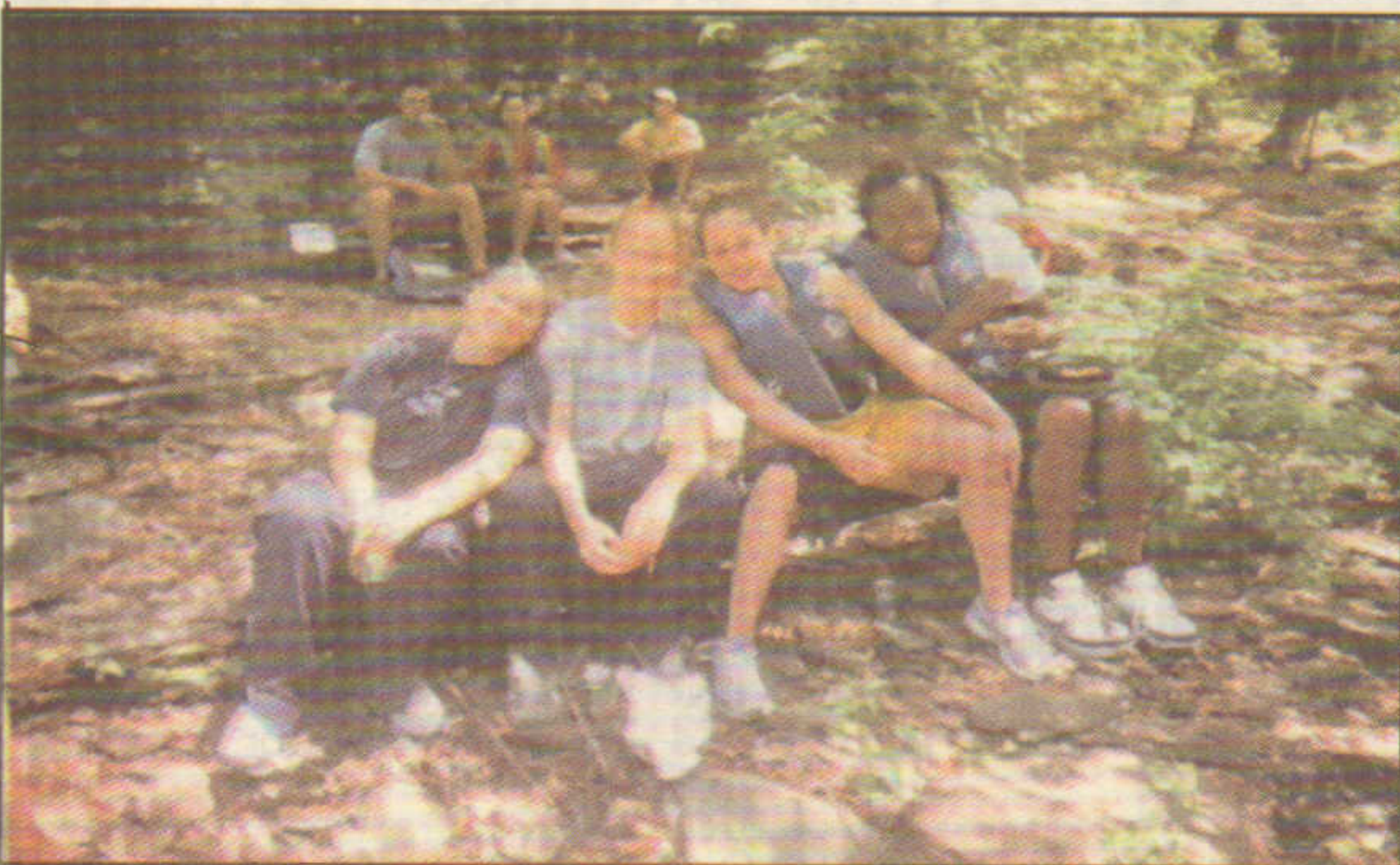
Competition is fierce. For many of the students, this is a first-of-

its-kind event.

"They have to paddle using their arms, not their thumbs, like in some kind of video game!" exulted Albritton when he brought his pictures by for the *Courier*.

"Man, it's a lot of fun. Every time a few get their canoes tipped by accident, and every time everybody gets at least a little wet. But no one complains—at least not much..."

Albritton says he will be concentrating on his astronomy classes on the Fredd campus in the future. Could this year's excursion be the last one of its kind?



*Scenes
from a
Chemistry
class out-
ing, AKA
The
Ecology
Club*

